

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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FROM JENKINS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, RO

SUBJECT: AMERICAN LIBRARY RENTAL ISSUE

REF: BUCHAREST 5384

I HAVE REVIEWED LIMITED RECORDS AVAILABLE TO ME PERSONALLY AND TALKED WITH USIA PEOPLE WHO PARTICIPATED WITH ME IN NEGOTIATING 1972 LIBRARY AGREEMENT. MY BEST RECOLLECTION IS THAT FINAL AGREEMENT WAS EFFORT TO RECONCILE ON LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS ON OUR SIDE AGAINST TYING RENTS OF TWO LIBRARIES TOGETHER AND ROMANIAN INTEREST IN MATCHING THEIR NEW YORK COSTS WITH OUR BUCHAREST COSTS AND THEREBY AVOIDING DRAIN ON THEIR FOREIGN CURRENCY RESERVES. THUS, WHILE WE AVOIDED RIGID LANGUAGE REQUIRING RECIPROCITY, IT WAS DEFINITELY OUR INTENTION TO MATCH APPROXIMATELY ROMANIAN RENTAL COSTS IN NEW YORK WITH OUR PAYMENTS FOR GREATLY SUPERIOR LIBRARY FACILITIES IN BUCHAREST.

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